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# C.N.R.M.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF MAUBERE RESISTANCE
CONSELHO NACIONAL DA RESISTENCIA MAUBERE

## NEWS RELEASE

## EAST TIMORESE STUDENTS SEEK POLITICAL ASYLUM

23 June 1993

Seven young East Timorese students have sought the protection of the Embassies of Sweden and of Finland in Jakarta on Wednesday 23 June, seeking political asylum in those two countries.

They have been in the Indonesian capital for many months hiding from military intelligence pursuit, in the wake of their participation in the Dili demonstrations, which led to the brutal 12 November 1991 massacre of over 200 unarmed students by the Indonesian army.

Florencio Anunciacao Fernandes (21), Porfirio da Costa Oliveira (23), and Jose Manuel de Oliveira Sousa (24), entered the Swedish Embassy offices at 1:30 pm. At roughly the same time Mateus Brito Ximenes (23), Ventura Valentim (24), Clementino Faria (27), and Oscar Goncalves da Silva (20) entered the offices of the Embassy of Finland, also located in the same building.

The case histories of these young people, some of which still exhibit the scars of the wounds from shootings on 12 November, include periods of detention and torture by Indonesian intelligence operatives in Dili. They have all sustained consistent harassment after their participation in pro-independence demonstrations during the visit of Pope John Paul II, a former US Ambassador to Indonesia, and the infamous Dili massacre at Santa Cruz. As a result, like many others, they were forced to quit their studies and eventually flee East Timor.

As fugitive aliens in crowded and poverty-stricken Java, without documents or social support groups, these people live a precarious existence fraught with moral and physical health dangers. In addition, they are haunted by the danger of capture by their pursuers.

In recent months Indonesian military intelligence has stepped up its hounding of Timorese students, sending increased missions of East-Timor based operatives to Java. Instances of fully armed platoons surrounding student residences in the middle of the





Informação do visor:
Código incompleto.